

The Whigs of this section are well pleased with the Cabinet, and the President. I have remained closely at business during the present year. I have the best Crop of Cotton I ever had on the River, and my Corn was very fine until the flood came & destroyed the greater portion of it. My Corn here is somewhat injured, but not to the same extent. The destruction on the Catawba River and South Fork is very general. That, added to the failure of the Wheat crop *by Rust*, creates a belief Corn will be scarce and high next year. My own Wheat was very good at both places.

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If your Negroes are to be employed next year on the Rail Road, they should, as soon as they gather your Crop put your fences in good order in bad weather, and do winter ploughing for the next Crop, which I presume will be mainly worked by women and children. It would be well to order a good portion of your Hogs and Cattle to be fatted and killed early in the fall, and thereby save your grain. I expect to go to Raleigh about the middle of Dec'm, and if so, I will stop and look after your business near Hillsboro' a few days. I will be pleased to aid you so far as I can, if you will advise me of what you want done. In your absence you may count on making very little on your Farm, but you should try to save what you can, and prevent waste. If you have any bad Negroes, now is a good time to sell them. Likely Negro men are selling here from \$800. to 860. To sell a bad one occasionally improves the rest, and saves much vexation to the owner. In your absence would be good time to put one or two of your young negro boys to learn Trades with good, honest mechanics.

In your official station you are in duty bound to be civil and polite to all who have business with you; but, in your private family sphere you are not bound to ask any one to your house because he happens to be a member of Congress, or holds any other station. I wish President Filmore and his Cabinet would not always appoint hungry applicants and constant seekers to office; but look abroad and inquire for men of high character and high capacity, for appointments, and let office seek them, instead of the annoying applicant seeking the office. There may be a few exceptions, but as a general rule, I have observed men who are insolvent and bankrupt in property are apt to be so in character and confidence; and yet they constitute the largest number of